St. Peter's and Our Lady's Collaborative Pastoral Council Minutes

18 November 2025

1. Opening prayer

   Led by Fr Stephen, the CPC prayed in particular for the response of the soul of Peter Dimambro, recently deceased.

2. Apologies for absence

   None. All members were present.

3. Minutes of 17 September

   Approved.

4. Matters arising

   None

5. Our Lady's Vision Delivery Launch

   GAH presented the launch for the Vision for Our Lady's. Significant amounts of work are being undertaken by parishioners at Our Lady's to demonstrate the vitality of the Church in both worship and evangelisation and to secure the future of Our Lady's. CPC members commended the Our Lady's team on their work. When the time comes to launch a similar campaign at St. Peter's it is hoped the materials from Our Lady's can be used.

6. Ideas for mission focused/spiritual events at St. Peter's and Our Lady's

   MF invited CPC members to share their thoughts on possible worship/mission/evangelisation events and initiatives in both parishes. Perhaps such events and initiatives could be planned and delivered jointly? For example, a Corpus Christi procession around the Pump Room Gardens. Or 40 Hours Devotion. MF advised that the minimum cost of a Corpus Christi procession would be £700, as permission would have to be obtained from Warwick District Council and Dormer Place would have to be closed temporarily to allow people to cross the road safely. Other CPC members noted that there are already events and initiatives taking place which could be expanded (the Martyrs' Walk – with a group walking from Our Lady's, the Justice and Peace Stations of the Cross), or in which more parishioners from both parishes could be involved (the Walk of Witness on Good Friday). IW volunteered to lead on the organisation of 40 Hours Devotion at some point during 2026. IW proposed to combine the devotion with an exhibition on Eucharistic Miracles.

ACTION: IW

7. Parishes planned giving campaign update

   As previously agreed, our campaign will be run during Lent 2026 in both parishes. Thanks were expressed to Paolo La Barbera, from the Finance Committee, who has agreed to join the planning group. Another volunteer will be sought from Our Lady's. Planning will start soon.

   ACTION: MF

8. St. Peter's Hall update

   Fr S advised that the Diocese will not authorise the planned Hall feasibility study as the cost exceeds £10,000 and the Diocese now requires evidence that any expenditure of this nature is very well spent and fully justified. The most recent quinquennial inspection of the Hall identified a minimum of £70,000 worth of remedial works, for which we do not have funds in the parish. There is no immediate threat to the Hall, which will remain open for use by the parish community and external hire and although there is no imminent threat to the hall, the fundamental problems with the building remain as they were and any sudden deterioration in any of the known issues may well cause immediate serious problems, as has previously made known. In the meantime, the CPC agreed to convene an action group to discern the future use of the St. Peter's buildings – Church, Hall and Presbytery. Discernment will take place involving listening to and full consultation with as many St. Peter's parishioners as possible. It will review current usage of all parish buildings. Precisely how and when this discernment will take place will be agreed by the action group comprising the CPC members from St. Peter's parish.

9. Walking Together Priorities update and Synodality

   It was noted that the Mass to pray for the repose of the souls of parishioners from both parishes who had died during the past 12 months was taking place on 19 November. Members of the CPC continue to be cognisant of the other Walking Together priorities. MF noted that the earlier discussion on worship and evangelisation events and initiatives was informed by conversations with members of the Young Adults Group. AE presented the latest document from the Synod on Synodality.

10. St. Peter's Church acoustics and sound

    Two parishioners had complained to IW about the amplification at St. Peter's. Discussion ensued. It was acknowledged that problems had existed in the past but it was thought these had been addressed and sound quality improved generally. It was agreed that all readers should be reminded to speak into the microphone. AE agreed to speak to

Sarah Vaughan, Readers' Coordinator. Those parishioners who struggle to hear should be invited to sit closer to speakers and as far as possible from the radiators.

ACTION: AE

11. Lenten Talks 2026

MF reported that, at the recent Cluster meeting, it was agreed to hold a series of Lenten Talks as a Cluster. This was welcomed by the CPC. AE advised that the Walking Together group were also planning Lenten talks, building on the success of this year's series of videos explaining the Mass. It was agreed that the Cluster and Walking Together initiatives should be combined, perhaps with a re-run of the Mass videos. AE offered to liaise with the Walking Together group. Kenilworth parish was proposed as a venue for the talks as it has good audio-visual facilities.

ACTION: AE

12. Communication to parishes

CPC minutes will continue to be made available via the Catholic Leamington website and in folders at the back of both parishes. Fr S and MF agreed to finalise the St. Peter's input for the newssheet, 'What I love about my parish'. Based on parishioners' feedback via post-it notes at the back of both parishes, the newssheet will be made available to all parishioners in December.

ACTION: FR S & MF

13. Cluster and Deanery updates

Minutes from the Cluster meeting on 29 October had previously been circulated to the CPC. The Deanery Pastoral Forum was scheduled for 20 November in Banbury. Minutes of these are available on the Deanery website.

14. AOB

None

15. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 21 January at 7pm. The St. Peter's Buildings Action Group will meet on Thursday 4 December at 7pm.

16. Closing prayer and blessing

Led by Fr S